WE CLAIM:

1. A method for strengthening containers substantially filled with a carbonated beverage in a high-speed filling operation, comprising:

a) providing a supply of liquefied gas connected to an injector apparatus, said injector apparatus comprising a substantially straight outflow line having a central longitudinal axis which is positioned at an angle to the central longitudinal axis of said containers;

b) positioning said outflow line of said injector apparatus above and adjacent to said containers passing thereby during said high-speed filling operation; and

c) during said high-speed filling operation, forcibly injecting a predetermined amount of said supply of liquefied gas into said carbonated beverage within each of said containers through said substantially straight outflow line of said injector apparatus, thereby displacing oxygen from the headspace above said carbonated beverage within each of said containers.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said angle is between about 15 degrees and 20 degrees.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said angle is about 18 degrees.